

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 024329

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CPAS, OEXC, RO (VROMAN, ROBERT)

SUBJECT: PROTECTION AND WELFARE -- VROMAN, ROBERT

REF: BUCHAREST 0395

1. DEPARTMENT CONTACTED VROMAN FEBRUARY 3 AND INFORMED HIM THAT ART. 159 OF ROMANIAN LEGAL CODE UNDER WHICH HE HAS BEEN SUMMONED TO APPEAR BEFORE BUCHAREST MILITARY TRIBUNAL PROHIBITS "TRANSMISSION OF STATE SECRETS" AND PROVIDES SEVERE PENALTIES INCLUDING DEATH. VROMAN'S INITIAL REACTION WAS ASTONISHMENT. AFTER SOME REFLECTION, ONLY POSSIBLE ACT HE RECALLED WHICH COULD BEAR ON SUMMONS WAS FOLLOWING: IN SPRING, 1974 VROMAN VISITED FEDREP GERMANY ON VACATION, TAKING WITH HIM DOCTORAL DISSERTATION OF ONE DR. EUGENE GRECU. GRECU IS A NEURAL PHYSIOLOGIST WHO HAD DECIDED TO REMAIN IN THE WEST; HE IS NOW IN U.S. DISSERTATION (WHICH VROMAN SAYS HAD BEEN PUBLISHED IN PART IN ROMANIA) WAS TAKEN BY
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VROMAN TO GRECU AT REQUEST OF LATTER'S SISTER, MONIKA

GRECU, THEN A MEMBER OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AT UNIVERSITY OF CLUJ. THE POSSIBILITY THUS EMERGES THAT VROMAN'S SUMMONS MAY BE RELATED TO SOME ACTION PENDING AGAINST GRECU.

2. FORMER CONSUL TUMMINIA RECALLS THAT GRECU ENCOUNTERED SOME PROBLEMS FROM INS WHEN APPLYING FOR ADMISSION TO U.S. AT FRANKFURT AND THAT VROMAN WROTE A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR HIM THEN, WHICH WAS TRANSMITTED BY POUCH TO FRANKFURT, EMBASSY CONSULAR SECTION MAY HAVE FILE ON GRECU.

3. ANOTHER RELATIONSHIP WHICH VROMAN MENTIONED WAS THAT WITH FERENC BAN, ONE OF HIS STUDENTS WITH WHOM A FRIENDSHIP DEVELOPED. BAN WAS EMPLOYED IN A "SECRET" CAPACITY AT A MINING INSTITUTE IN BAIA MARE AND ONCE TOLD VROMAN A CONDITION OF HIS EMPLOYMENT THERE WAS NOT TO CONSORT WITH FOREIGNERS. BAN WAS ALSO TRANSLATING A MANUSCRIPT FOR VROMAN WHEN LATTER LEFT THE COUNTRY AND HE HAS NOT HEARD FROM HIM IN SOME TIME. VROMAN SAYS CAO GILBERT KNOWS BAN.

4. VROMAN URGES GREATEST DISCRETION IN PROTECTING NAMES OF BAN AND BOTH GRECU.

5. FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS IN REFTTEL, VROMAN IS ASKING ROMANIAN EMBASSY HERE FOR CLARIFICATION OF THE SUMMONS, AND HE ALSO AUTHORIZES EMBASSY BUCHAREST TO MAKE ANY ENQUIRIES IT MAY THINK APPROPRIATE ON HIS BEHALF.
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